

## St. Johnsbury Caledonian

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THE CALEDONIAN CO.

## The Old Home Idea.

Old home week has come and gone. Has it really paid for so many Vermont towns to fall into line with the idea originated by Gov. Rollins of New Hampshire and hold these reunions? We do not believe anybody will answer the question in the negative. In fact, we are quite positive the answer will be in the affirmative. It would be folly to try to measure the beneficial results of old home week. They could be partially discovered in the pleasure-lit faces of the home comers as they greeted old-time acquaintances and sat down to "talk it over." These results will manifest themselves as the years go by, in strengthened love for and loyalty to the town and state, and in a deepened interest on the part of the absentees in the continued prosperity, and all possible growth, of the native town, village or city, and it develops upon the stay-at-homes to see to it that there is no such retrogression of town or village or city as will lessen in any degree the home pride of those who have felt called upon to go elsewhere in the pursuit of fortune.

The old home idea is worth developing—not along extravagant lines, but in a sober, sensible sort of way.

The Montpelier Watchman had itself proud in its issue of the Old Home Week edition. Finely illustrated, well printed, and a first class souvenir of Vermont's banner week.

The pardon of that Rutland bank cashier continues to disturb the minds of certain of our contemporaries who are old-fashioned enough to think that justice should be justice, whenever it starts in to exercise its disciplinary characteristics.

The work of introducing civil government of a proper sort into the Philippines is moving along briskly, according to statements in the Manila press. The civil bureaus are to be centralized, so as to make possible the transaction of a large amount of business in the several departments.

Hamilton King, consul-general of the United States in Siam, says the people of that country do not want the Christian religion. They are believers in the Buddhist faith, the faith of their fathers, of their king and of their country. But the king is willing that they should learn of Christianity, and missionary work goes on unhindered.

From an article in the Army and Navy Journal, on the report on the Philippine commissary frauds, we glean some facts of interest: It was on the initiative of Col. Woodruff's office that the investigation was begun. Two officers were tried and convicted, \$312 worth of bacon being involved in their misdemeanor. Three commissary sergeants misappropriated \$828.75 worth of property; these three bore for twenty years most honorable records, and were in charge of warehouses containing stores to the value of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The charge against Col. Woodruff, that he was occupying free a house furnished by a contractor, was shown to be absolutely false, as the Colonel was paying regular rent for the same. No illegal purchases of champagne were made, and the report discovers nothing scandalous about the business management which had to do with the buying of champagne, without the use of which, it is averred, many a soldier, today alive and well, "would be resting in metallic caskets." The report will be of special interest to Col. Woodruff's friends.

## The National Bankruptcy Law.

Vermont may not be as deeply interested in bankruptcy as Massachusetts or New York, but the difference is one of degree only, as our interests are mutual.

The national bankruptcy law has now been in operation three years. It has developed both strength and weakness in operation. E. C. Brandenburg, who has charge of bankruptcy matters in the Department of Justice at Washington, expresses the opinion that with one or two exceptions, the law is meeting with almost universal approbation. We think Mr. Brandenburg a bit overzealous, but nevertheless believe that with one or two exceptions the law ought to meet with general approbation.

The fact that about nine-tenths of the insolvent debtors who have sought and obtained relief under the new law are voluntary petitioners gives some ground for the opinion that this is an "easy" law, and that one has but to drop into the bankruptcy hopper today and to be ground out tomorrow free from all past legal obligations of every name and nature. Reports show, however, that a large percentage of those taking advantage of the voluntary feature of the law are old insolvents, many of whom had been through the old insolvency courts of their own states, and have taken advantage of this opportunity to clear up their records.

At the same time it must be admitted that a law that permits an insolvent debtor to go through the bankruptcy court and obtain his discharge twice within three years and to appear on file as a petitioner for a third time is far too "easy" to please the average creditor or to satisfy the demands of justice. Again, in the matter of preferences, the ruling that compels a creditor, who receives payments on his account from time to time in the regular order of business, to pay back into the estate of the debtor in bankruptcy all moneys received by him within four months preceding the date the debtor was adjudged a bankrupt, before he can file his claim and share in the distribution of dividends with the other creditors, is manifestly unfair.

Both these and other weak points in the law are well covered by the amendments proposed by what is known as the Ray bill and which we hope to see passed at the next session of congress. The country is not likely to go back to the old arrangement which allowed a separate bankruptcy law for each one of the states, any more than it is likely to go back to the old system of state banks. Strengthen the weak points of the existing law, but let it stand as a whole. It is far easier to amend an imperfect national bankruptcy law than to secure the enactment of any bankruptcy law where none exists.

## Sunday School Attendance.

The Barre Times gives the result of the recent canvass of the city of Barre by a representative of the Vermont Bible Society, and makes some comparisons between that and the statistics secured in the similar canvass in St. Johnsbury. The comparison in some ways is unfavorable to St. Johnsbury. Barre, with an approximate population of 9000, has, according to the Bible Society's report, 11 illiterate families, while St. Johnsbury, with 7192 people, had 17. The greatest difference, however, seems to be in Sunday school attendance of children between the ages of five and 18. Barre has 1434 and only 359 on record as not attending Sunday school, while St. Johnsbury had 742 non-attendants and only 704 attendants. This comparison seems remarkable at first thought, but we think that a comment made in the CALEDONIAN at the time the report was published may partially explain the difference. When the report of canvass here was received, the statement that more than one-half of the boys and girls in St. Johnsbury between the ages mentioned did not attend Sunday school occasioned considerable surprise. The agent of the society was interviewed and it was learned that he included in the non-attendants all children of Catholic families. How many of these there may be we do not know, but it is safe to say that they constitute a majority of the number. We do not know that the result in Barre was obtained by including Catholic children as well as Protestants in the list of Sunday school goers, but the wide difference between the two places suggests something of the sort. One thing is certain, it does not seem hardly fair for a society that is in a measure sectarian to publish statistics of this sort without an explanation, for although the Catholic church does not conduct a Sunday school along the lines of those maintained by the Protestant churches, nevertheless religion is a vital part of the young Catholic's education and each child is thoroughly taught in its precepts. To place them in a list, that by its name suggests the absence of religious training, is misleading, and gives an entirely wrong impression.

## Reserve Seats At Sherbrooke Fair.

The plans of the reserve seats for Canada's Great Eastern Exhibition will be issued a little earlier than usual this year in order to allow visitors from a distance an opportunity of purchasing their grand stand tickets in advance. These tickets have been found a great convenience by visitors during the past two years, inasmuch as they were thus able to secure comfortable seats, and at the same time avoid the crush which is always unavoidable at a fair of this magnitude. The seating capacity of the grand stand today is between nine and ten thousand, but the attendance during the past two years has been so large that late comers have invariably been unable to obtain seats. Those wishing to secure their seats in this way can do so by writing to the secretary.

The Lehigh Valley Railroad company has issued an order forbidding conversation in Pennsylvania Dutch among its employees while on duty.

## To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature on every box. 25 cents.

## DIARY OF EVENTS.

August 12.

FOREIGN.—General Kitchener in his weekly report of operations in South Africa says 39 Boers were killed, 20 wounded, 685 made prisoners and 85 surrendered, besides a large amount of ammunition and much live stock taken; General French is reported driving the bands of Boers in Cape Colony northward.—The body of Empress Frederick was removed from Cronberg to Potsdam.—Edmund Z. Brodowski, United States consul at Solingen, Germany, died suddenly.—The principal chef and five cooks in the royal palace at Madrid went on strike.

UNITED STATES.—The United States Charge at Caracas has been authorized to use his good offices for Colombia if that country's minister departs.—The minister at Peking agreed that wheat and flour should be admitted to China free of duty.—The torpedo boat Cushing was disabled in the maneuvers off Newport. A shortage of 56,000,000 bushels is expected in the French wheat crop.

August 13.

FOREIGN.—The outlook in the financial situation in England is a gloomy one.—The body of the Dowager Empress Frederick was buried at Potsdam; the Kaiser and King Edward were present.—Advices from London showed that the Boers had apparently reached the end of their supplies of ammunition.—The Ophir reached Durban; a hearty reception was given to the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.—Two Colombian insurgent leaders have sailed from Managua to organize in Ecuador and at Salvador expeditions against the Colombian government.—Mail advices from Colon showed that there was great uneasiness on the isthmus and that the Colombian government was using every means to raise funds.—Two modern 6-inch rifles at Santiago were carried away and destroyed; the thieves were captured.—Sir Thomas Lipton will sail for this country on the Tonic tonic today.—The town of Farsund, on the North Sea, was destroyed by fire.—The Marquis Ito, former premier of Japan, expects to visit this country.

UNITED STATES.—There was no change of great importance in the steel strike situation, some further gains being made by the strikers, but the advantage remaining with the manufacturers.—The weekly crop report of the government showed improvement in some regions, but deterioration in others, particularly in the Ohio Valley.—Word was received from Minister Hart, in Columbia, that adherents of Dr. Saclemeute, the former president of Columbia, had been arrested on suspicion of revolutionary intentions.—A Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad train was held up and robbed by masked men in Indian Territory.

August 14.

FOREIGN.—Sir Thomas Lipton left London for America; he made a short speech at Euston Station in response to an enthusiastic send-off by his friends.—Richard Croker, it is asserted by friends, will probably leave London for New York on August 24.—It is proposed to establish a line of steamers between Berehaven, Bantry Bay, Ireland, and America, capable of making the voyage in four and a half days, the enterprise to include a railway across Southern Ireland and a Channel ferry.—Commandant Pretorius, a Boer leader, died at Jagersfontein, Orange River Colony, from wounds received in battle.—Funeral services for ex-Premier Crispien were held at Naples, and the body of the statesman was taken to Sicily.—The Czar has conferred the Andreas Order, with diamonds and sword, on Count von Waldersee.—Russian suzerainty has been proclaimed over New-Chuang China.

UNITED STATES.—Both sides in the steel strike made gains; the strikers succeeded in closing the National Tube Works in McKeesport and the manufacturers reopened the Painters mill in Pittsburgh and the Crescent tinplate plant in Cleveland; President Shaffer addressed a big labor demonstration in Wheeling, W. Va.; unconfirmed rumors of a settlement were afloat in Pittsburgh.—Twelve lives were lost and several men were injured by the burning of a waterworks crib at Cleveland.—A pamphlet issued in Manila and purporting to be signed by the Centro Catolico viciously attacked Judge Taft on the church question; the Centro Catolico repudiated the pamphlet.—Lieutenant General Miles issued a general order giving advice to the army looking to its movement.—The Invader won her third victory over the Cadillac in the contest for the Canadian Cup at Chicago, thus winning the series and capturing the cup.

August 15.

FOREIGN.—Disorder and unrest prevail on the isthmus of Panama, and the rebels are making many raids; a Jamaica dispatch reports heavy fighting between the rebels and government troops.

UNITED STATES.—Efforts to settle the steel strike were renewed in Pittsburgh, but the result is in doubt; the employees at the Joliet mill of the Illinois Steel Company unanimously voted to obey President Shaffer's strike order.—The severe tropical storm raging on the Gulf Coast has cut off all communication with Mobile and caused great damage in other places.—Colonel Martin Cabrera, a Filipino insurgent leader, was captured by Lieutenant Grant, of the 6th Cavalry, in Batangas Province; a number of Filipinos surrendered to United States officers.—Attorney General gave a decision holding surety companies liable for financial deficits of bonded post office employees.—The appointment of Thaddeus S. Sharratt to represent the United States in tariff negotiations in China was decided on.

August 16.

FOREIGN.—The Boers surrounded and captured a party of fifty of General French's scouts in Cape Colony; an important engagement between the British and a force of four thousand Boers is impending on the frontier of Zululand.—Trains are again crossing the Isthmus of Panama without military escort, several stations along the line having been garrisoned.—The new census of Canada places the population at 5,338,883, an increase of 505,544, or less than 10 1/2 per cent. in ten years; the result is disappointing to Canadians.—Lord George Hamilton, secretary for India, made the best financial statement in Parliament for that country since it has been a colony of the Crown; the results of the gold standard had exceeded the expectations of the government.—The widow of Premier Canovas del Castillo died in Spain.

UNITED STATES.—The leaders of the steel strikers were greatly encouraged by the action of the men at Joliet, where 2,500 employees of the Illinois Steel Company quit work; the manufacturers still

express confidence of victory; the last plant running at McKeesport was tied up; the steel workers at Milwaukee are expected to vote today on the question of obeying President Shaffer's order.—The storm which swept over the Gulf region subsided, and, while information from points along the coast is meagre, the loss of life is thought to be small; great damage was done to railroads, shipping and other property.—Rear Admiral Schley conferred with his counsel in Washington, where he will remain until after the court of inquiry completes its investigation of the Santiago campaign. It was announced in Philadelphia that Charles M. Schwab will take control of the Bethlehem steel and iron companies within ten days.—Frank A. McKean, ex-mayor of Nashua, N. H., is reported dead in Asuncion, Paraguay.

August 17.

FOREIGN.—It was reported in London that Gen. Botha's expected meeting with Gen. Kitchener in Zululand was for the purpose of surrendering and not of giving battle; not much importance is attached to the report.—Cardinal Gibbons will sail today on the Etruria from Queenstown for New York.—The presence of troops along the line of railway and of a French warship in the harbor at Colon is restoring confidence on the isthmus.—Famine is declared to be imminent in a large part of the best crop growing districts of Russia, owing to insufficient harvests.—Gen. Plaza was declared elected President of Ecuador, having received a majority of 65,000 votes.—The German press criticizes Count von Waldersee sharply for his impolitic references to other nations in a speech at Hanover.—London is full of Americans who are unable to obtain passage to America owing to the overcrowded condition of the steamships.—Minister Coger arrived at Peking on his return to the United States.

UNITED STATES.—Bay View Lodge of the Amalgamated Association, in Milwaukee, and the men of the Riverside Works, in Wheeling, voted to join the steel strikers.—Word was received in Washington that Dr. Rangel Garviro had invaded Venezuela with 4,000 men; the Ranger and the Machias, of the United States Navy, sailed for Panama and Colon respectively.—It has been decided that coffee may go from the United States to Porto Rico free of duty.

## Press Comment.

Vermont certainly deserves this honor and one of the new battleships should be named after her. But we would prefer Vice-Admiral Charles E. Clark to the rear admiral.—[Bradford Opinion.]

The country will be disposed to draw the line when the victims of the Oklahoma land lottery return for sympathy and assistance.—[Washington Post.]

In New York outings are given the pupils of the vacation schools, and the city, not satisfied with holding the schools open during the summer, further fortify the young minds by a change of scene along the beaches and inland to the country at the expense of the city. New York may have a Devery, but her school system is not half bad.—[Boston Record.]

Vermont farmers should dig gold out of their potato fields this season. On the bill farms in this vicinity there is a good deal better than half an average crop of the early varieties and they are bringing a good deal better than double the average price.—[Brandon Union.]

The liquor dealers of Rutland have recently been rounded up and made to pay the penalty of violators of the prohibitory law. Meanwhile their brothers in the business in Fair Haven—never more wide open than for several months—were immune, no effort whatever being made to put a stop to the traffic in which they are engaged. This is Vermont justice of the prohibitory type. It is not to be wondered at that a cry goes up from supporters and non-supporters of the law that the officials cease to be discriminators and be simply what their oaths of office require them to be—law enforcers.—[Fair Haven Era.]

About 15,000,000 pounds of foreign macaroni are imported to this country yearly.

## Scrofula

Few are entirely free from it. It may develop so slowly as to cause little if any disturbance during the whole period of childhood.

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I. W. SANBORN, Vice-President.  
Lyndonville, Vt., Aug. 7, 1901.

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